

Non-Settlement of Provident Fund cases of Employees of Bharat Overseas Private Limited

*95. SHRI RAMJI LAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all the cases of settlement of Provident Fund of employees is being made without any delay or discrimination;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that the provident fund cases of the employees of Bharat Overseas Private Limited, Delhi and Calcutta, have not been settled till date;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to expedite settlement of such cases;

(d) whether Government have issued any directive in this regard; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR : (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (e) The Provident Fund (P.F.) claims which are found complete in all respects are generally settled without any delay. M/s. Bharat Overseas Private Limited, Delhi was covered as an unexempted establishment w.e.f. September, 1974. The establishment was however, closed down in December, 1975. According to Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Delhi, all PF claims received by him have been settled and no claim is pending. As regards M/s. Bharat Overseas Private Limited, Calcutta, the establishment was granted relaxation on 1-8-69 to administer the Provident Fund Scheme through a Board of Trustees pending grant of exemption under section 17 of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. Meanwhile, the establishment defaulted in payment of PF dues. The RPFC, therefore, cancelled the relaxation and also initiated penal action against the establishment under section 406/409 of the Indian Penal Code. Consequently, the police authorities seized the records relating to the Provident Fund Trust and also arrested the persons responsible in the establishment. In the meantime, the establish-

ment was closed w.e.f. 5-2-1975. In 1978, the Company was taken over by the Government of West Bengal. As the records were with the police authorities, the present management could not prepare the previous accumulation statements and other statutory returns which are necessary for making Provident Fund settlements. The RPFC, Calcutta held a tripartite meeting involving the trade union leaders, the State Government and the Current management. A firm of Chartered Accountants has been designated to prepare statement on previous accumulation on the basis of available records with the current management and the police authorities. However, as an interim measure, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner has been making part payment of the claims of the employees by resorting to payments through Special Reserve Fund.

Administration of Toxic Drugs in An Army Hospital

*96. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :
DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item that appeared in the Indian Express, New Delhi Edition of the 10th October, 1992 captioned "Hospital administers toxic drugs, IMA cadet dies, seven others battle for life".

(b) whether any enquiry has been ordered in the incident, if so the details thereof indicating therewith the action taken against the officials responsible; and

(c) if no enquiry has been ordered, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) Government have seen the press report.

(b) and (c) Commandant, IMA, had ordered a Court of Inquiry into the incident. The report of the Court of Inquiry is currently under examination of the GOC-in-C, Central Command. Director General Medical Services (Army) had also ordered a technical investigation to look into the professional lapses, if any, in the medical care of the cadets. This investigation has not found anybody blame-